

# Friends of the Chicago River



**Dana Murphy**  
**Director of Education and Outreach**  
**April 2012**

# Education and Outreach



- Chicago River Schools Network
  - Adopt A River schools
  - Teacher workshops
  - Student Congress
- Bridgehouse Museum
- Paddling Programs
  - Canoe Trips
  - Flatwater Classic

# Chicago River Schools Network

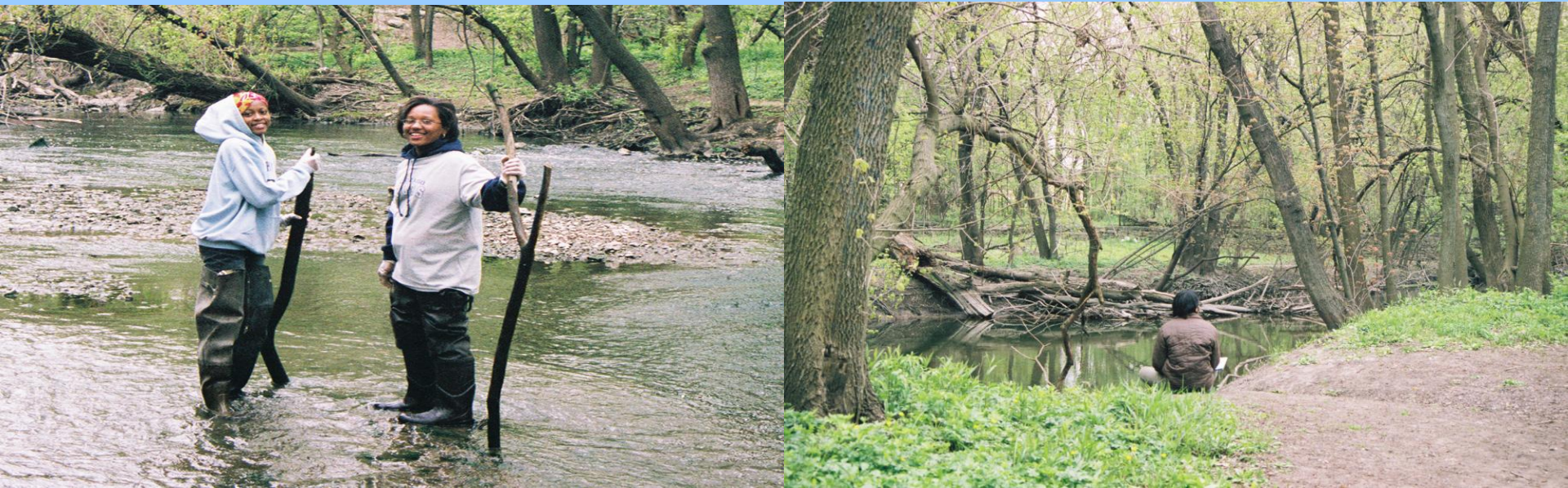
- Classroom presentations and field trips
- Hands-on, integrated and service learning experiences
- Teacher workshops
- Annual Chicago River Student Congress



# Using *Local* Natural Resources as a Learning Tool

## "Place-Based" Education

*"The process of using the local community and environment as a starting point to teach concepts in language arts, mathematics, social studies, science and other subjects across the curriculum."*  
-David Sobel



# Service Learning Opportunities



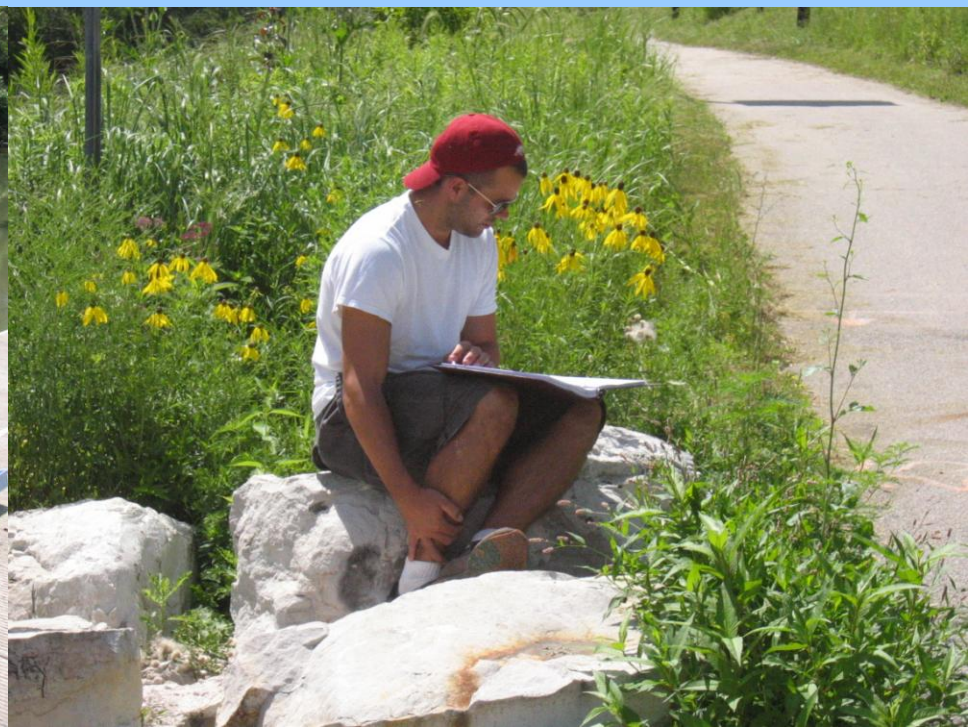
# Student Congress



An opportunity to share knowledge and enthusiasm with other students. What can your students bring to the table?

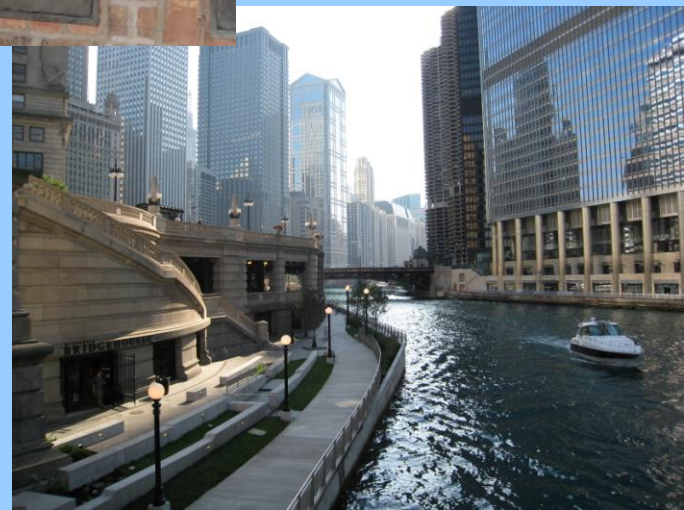
# Rivers Curriculum Teacher Workshop

- Developed in conjunction with SIU-Edwardsville
- Co-facilitators: DePaul University Environmental Science faculty
- 30 CPDUs; Optional grad credit (2H)- Aurora University



# McCormick Bridgehouse & Chicago River Museum

May 15 – October 31: Museum open Thursdays through Mondays



# What do TEACHERS say about us?

“Being a part of the Chicago River Schools Network has given me a fun, interactive way to teach students about their natural surroundings and to create projects that combine the arts and sciences.”

*Amy Andrews*

-6<sup>th</sup> grade teacher, Mozart School, Chicago Public Schools

“You have changed the face of our school.”

*Janet Wright*

-Science Chair, Jewish Children and  
Family Services Therapeutic Day School



“I can think of no better way to get the students involved, first hand, in the learning process. To let them know that what we are learning is important, and what they do on a daily basis does make a difference.”

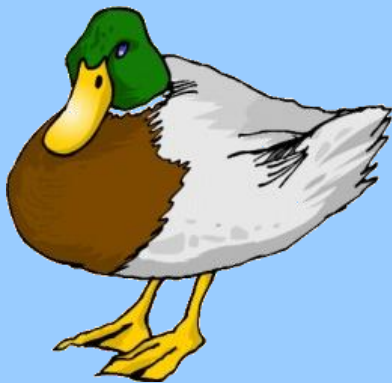
*Jeff Hoyer*

-Biology and AP Environmental Science, Deerfield High School

# What do KIDS say about us?

**“This is beautiful; the trees, the birds... Is this place free?”**

*-6<sup>th</sup> grader, Gary School, at LaBagh Woods*



**“This is so cool. I wish I could come here every day.”**

*-5<sup>th</sup> grader, Whittier Elementary, at Cap Sauers*

In the middle of a spring downpour...

**“Do we have to leave? This is fun!”**

*-5<sup>th</sup> grader, Dumas School, at McClaughry Springs*



**“You taught us tons of things and helped us with our understanding of the Chicago River. Your presentation actually inspired me to try to be more active with our ecosystem, specifically my neighborhood.”**

*-7<sup>th</sup> grader, Chicago Jesuit Academy, after classroom presentation*